

Expert urges compensation for medical AIDS

Charge laid over paint attacks

By ALICIA LARRIERA

One of Australia's leading AIDS experts, Professor John Dwyer, has made an impassioned plea to the State Government to pay at least \$150,000 - and up to \$250,000 - to every person in NSW who has contracted the HIV virus medically.

And he has called on the Federal Government to look at removing "bureaucratic and outdated impediments" that are holding up the distribution of new drugs to fight the disease.

Speaking yesterday before the Standing Committee on Social Issues, which is inquiring into the question of compensation for people who have medically-acquired AIDS, Professor Dwyer described the situation as a "natural disaster" and said Government should respond in the same man-

Rev Nile, the AIDS activists and a question of innocence

For the past two months, the Rev Fred Nile - the Call to Australia MP likely to control the Upper House after the next election - has participated in an inquiry that will determine if people with medically acquired HIV should be compensated.

Yesterday, for the first time since the parliamentary committee began its public hearings, Mr Nile was able to confront representatives of a community he believes is

solely responsible for spreading AIDS - homosexuals.

At times, Mr Nile could be observed staring at two men sitting together at the back of the room wearing black T-shirts emblazoned "Silence = Death". They were listening to proceedings holding hands.

ACTUP, the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power, a lobby group "united in anger" which advocates direct action to end the AIDS crisis, had asked to give evidence to

the Standing Committee on Social Issues.

The group wanted to record a protest against the inquiry's terms of reference, which ACTUP says reinforces the erroneous idea of "guilty and innocent victims", will create two standards of care, and is an indication that the committee "has yet to overcome its homophobia".

Mr Nile's line of questioning, peppered with statements about

guilty and innocent victims, brought anguished cries of "disgrace" from six members of ACTUP sitting in the public gallery.

Mr Lyle Chan, a member of ACTUP, responded by saying: "Reverend Nile, I must remind you that you're now a public servant, not a servant of God, and your role is to save lives, not souls."

Mr Nile did not respond, choosing instead to continue his questioning.

Mr Chan's request to the chairman of the committee, Mr Max Willis (Lib), to desist from referring to people as "AIDS victims" because it was insulting brought a sharp rebuke: "I will use whatever terms I please." However, while later questioning another witness, Mr Willis began to say "the victims ..." but corrected himself saying, "Sorry, people afflicted with AIDS ...".

□ ALICIA LARRIERA

litigation be pursued in the future.

Questioned as to why he supported compensation for those people who have acquired HIV medically, but not for those who have acquired it through other means, Professor Dwyer said that there was a "subtle difference".

"We're dealing with a very clear cut thing ... like asbestosis. It's subtly but importantly different ... it's enough for people who don't have medically acquired HIV to agree there's a difference."

This view was strongly disputed by representatives of ACTUP, the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power, which earlier told the inquiry that spending money on compensation would do nothing but help "people die more comfortable deaths". Money should be channelled into adequate health and welfare service for all people with AIDS.

By RICHARD MACEY

A 33-year-old Potts Point doctor, charged over the splashing of red paint over the front gate at Parliament House, will appear in court later this month.

Parliament House was one of about 10 targets hit early yesterday morning in what appears to have been a protest against recent attacks on homosexuals.

The man was charged with one count of causing malicious damage after security guards allegedly spotted a car driving from the scene.

Other buildings sprayed with red paint included St Mary's Cathedral, St Andrew's Cathedral, Downing Centre court, the Department of School Education at Parramatta, the Reader's Digest offices in Surry Hills, the Church Mission Society in Market and Bathurst streets and buildings owned by News Ltd, John Fairfax and Channel 10.

An anonymous press release sent to the media yesterday indicated the attacks had been launched to coincide with the expected sentencing of four men charged over the death last year of a homosexual, 33-year-old Mr Richard Johnson.

The statement claimed that homosexuals were "denounced by the church, discriminated against in the justice system, mocked in the media and swept under the carpet by the education system".

"Is it any wonder young people decide it's OK to hunt and kill us for fun? The time for silence, for meek acceptance, for discussion, for pleading, has passed."

"Today we've painted the town red: the colour of our blood that's being spilt on the streets, the colour of our anger at the sight of that being heaped on us by a society that says violence against gay men and lesbians is OK."

The man charged with malicious damage has been bailed to appear in Downing Centre Local Court on April 22.

Police plea to gays after murder of stage hand

By RICHARD MACEY

Police believe an Australian Ballet stage hand, murdered in his Newtown house on Sunday night, may have been attacked after inviting the killer into his home.

Detectives investigating the attack appealed to Sydney's homosexual community for any information which could identify the killer.

Mr Maurice John McCarty, 46, was found by police at 11.10 pm, semi-conscious in the back yard of his rented house in Linthorpe Street, Newtown.

Suffering massive head injuries, he was rushed to the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, where he died at 1.17 yesterday morning.

It is believed Mr McCarty, who came to Australia from New Zealand, may have been bashed to death with two house bricks.

Detective Sergeant Dave Llewellyn, of the South-West Region



Mr McCarty ... suffered massive head injuries.

and when he was attacked," the detective said.

But sometime during the evening, he may have invited another person into his house. "There was no sign of a forced entry," Sergeant Llewellyn said.

Judging by the trail of blood, police believe a struggle between the victim and the killer probably began in a bedroom.

"The victim ran down the hall but it appears he was caught at the back door and that the attacker set upon him again."

Mr McCarty's moans attracted the attention of a neighbour, who called police.

The detective said there was no evidence to suggest that Mr McCarty had been the victim of a "gay bashing".

"But we would like to make an appeal to the gay community. They may be able to assist us with our inquiries," he said.

Under siege from the 'gutless' ones

By RICHARD MACEY

Yianni, a Redfern fashion designer, admits the wave of "gay bashing" sweeping Sydney's inner suburbs has him frightened.

Yesterday morning, while driving through the city, he could not help notice the red paint that had been splashed over the front of the Reader's Digest office in Surry Hills, apparently as a protest against assaults on homosexuals.

Yianni, who describes himself as gay, thought little more of what he had seen until, on returning to his shop, he was attacked by two youths.

In the struggle, he had his shirt torn and his buttons ripped off. "I am pretty scared," Yianni said, adding that such abuse from local teenagers was becoming frequent.

He moved into Redfern four years ago when he discovered a three-level building for sale that he realised would be perfect for a home and business. "It was a bargain I could not miss," he said.

He launched his business, in which he designs, cuts and retails



Yianni ... "I bought my property. I am not going to be chased away."

his own range of clothes. Then the trouble started.

"I have had a few punch-ups," Yianni said. "They start swearing, saying '... ing poofers'. Then they come into my shop and start pushing the racks around."

Sometimes, it happens once a

month. Other times, it happens several times in a week. He calls the police but, he insists, they say there is nothing they can do unless they catch them in the act.

On one occasion, he returned the punches, managing to throw the hooligans out of his shop. "I lost

my block. They spat on me," he said yesterday, adding that he even surprised himself by fighting back. "I couldn't believe it myself."

Yesterday morning, it all happened again. Once again, Yianni stood his ground, defending himself from the unprovoked attack.

"It's getting worse," he said, adding that he had approached the parents of the hooligans on three occasions. "They play ignorant. They say 'my son wouldn't do that'."

Yianni said his private life should be of concern to no-one but himself. "I am a designer, a creative person ... but I am in their ghetto," he said of the gangs.

He said the hoodlums worked in groups of at least two and sometimes four. "They are really gutless on their own. I think they are extremely nervous and confused about their own sexuality."

His clients and fashion editors often asked him why he has put up with the abuse and why he did not move out. "I bought my property. I am not going to be chased away," he had replied.

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VEHICLE SAFETY RECALL

General Motors-Holden's Automotive Limited has identified that a fault may exist within a range of Holden Apollo vehicles built prior to 15th August, 1990.

The purpose of the recall is to inspect, and where necessary, replace the rear brake hose.

Holden Apollo vehicles to be recalled fall within the following Production Serial Number ranges:

- Apollo 'SLE' Sedan - 53 SG 21 09800004 to 53 SG 21 09801041
- Apollo 'SLE' Wagon - 72 SG 21 09850003 to 72 SG 21 09850323
- Apollo SL, SLX, Executive Sedan - 53 SG 22 09300007 to 53 SG 22 093098718
- Apollo SL, SLX, Executive Wagon - 72 SG 22 09350003 to 72 SG 22 09352464

The vehicle Production Serial Number is stamped on the Vehicle Identification Plate on the firewall in the engine compartment and is listed in the Vehicle Owner's Handbook.

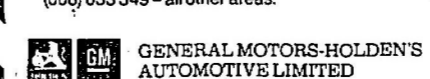
Owners are advised that in a potentially small number of vehicles, from within the above range, it is possible that the rear brake hose may be incorrectly positioned and could rub on body or suspension components causing hose wear. Hose wear may result in loss of brake fluid, and there is a possibility that this may lead to a reduction in braking capability.

Your Holden Dealer will inspect and replace FREE OF CHARGE any rear brake flexible hoses found incorrectly installed.

NOTE: No other Holden models are affected by this recall. Owners of vehicles involved in this recall will be contacted individually by a campaign notice.

Holden sincerely regrets any inconvenience caused by the need for this action, which has been taken in the interest of safety and continued customer satisfaction.

If further information is required, owners should contact any authorised Holden Dealer or Holden Customer Assistance, on telephone number - (03) 646 5465 - Melbourne Metropolitan area or (03) 033 349 - all other areas.



McGraw-Hill

Mail faces disruption as bans take effect

By KARIN BISHOP and BRAD NORINGTON

Mail deliveries may be threatened by a series of nationwide bans by the Australian Postal and Telecommunications Union.

The bans, which came into force yesterday morning, have created minor disruptions to deliveries in parts of Sydney including Ryde, St Mary's and Mount Druitt.

The bans forbid splitting delivery runs or using untrained casuals to cover for absent employees. They followed moves by Australia Post to look at alternative ways of relieving absent workers.

The current provisions allow for trained relief workers to stand in for the usual delivery officer if away.

The NSW deputy general manager of Australia Post's retail and delivery department, Mr Michael Talbot, said management was looking at several alternatives including splitting absent delivery officers' runs among other permanent staff.

The secretary of the Australian Postal and Telecommunications

Union, Mr Allan Jarman, said Australia Post needed to ensure there were sufficient relief workers to avoid overworking their staff.

The Industrial Relations Commission will hear the dispute on Thursday.

The National Union of Workers is threatening a Statewide strike of storemen later this week to halt supplies of food, petrol and drugs following the refusal of Davids Holdings to reinstate 103 workers.

About 30,000 storemen would be called out in support of the workers, who were sacked on February 13 for allegedly repudiating work contracts.

The NUW's State secretary, Mr Frank Belan, said the State Industrial Commission had refused to hear his union's case until April 23.

Lotto numbers

Week 14: 1, 14, 28, 30, 37, 39. Supplementary: 19, 34. Div 1, \$2 million; div 2, \$153,829; div 3, \$256,381; div 4, \$307,657; div 5, \$410,209.

TOYOTA

VEHICLE SAFETY RECALL

Toyota has identified that a fault may exist within a range of locally manufactured Toyota Camry vehicles built during the period of February 1, 1987 to August 15, 1990.

The purpose of the recall is to inspect and where necessary replace the rear brake hose. Toyota Camry vehicles to be recalled fall within the following frame range numbers:

- SV20 9000001 - SV20 9004428
- SV21 9000001 - SV21 9047916
- 53SV20 09005003 - 53SV20 09006040
- 72SV20 09030000 - 72SV20 09030270
- 53SV21 09050000 - 53SV21 09052517
- 72SV21 09080001 - 72SV21 09084465
- 53SV21 09100005 - 53SV21 09122973
- 72SV21 09300002 - 72SV21 09307986
- 53SV22 09400003 - 53SV22 09403731
- 72SV22 09500004 - 72SV22 09501243

The vehicle frame number is stamped on the Vehicle Identification Plate on the firewall in the engine compartment and is listed in the Vehicle Warranty and Service Booklet.

Owners are advised that in a potentially small number of vehicles from within the above frame range, it is possible that the rear brake hose may be incorrectly positioned and could rub on body or suspension components causing hose wear.

Hose wear may result in loss of brake fluid, and there is a possibility that braking efficiency will be impaired.

Your Toyota Dealer will inspect and replace FREE OF CHARGE any rear brake flexible hoses found incorrectly installed.

NOTE: No other Toyota models are affected by this recall. Owners of vehicles involved in this recall will be contacted individually by a campaign notice. Toyota sincerely regrets any inconvenience caused by the need for this action which has been taken in the interest of safety and continued customer satisfaction.

If further information is required, owners should contact any authorised Toyota Dealer or the Toyota Customer Assistance Centre free call 008 252 097.

Owners in the Sydney Metropolitan area should ring 710 3099 or 710 3333.



Toyota Motor Corporation Australia Limited National Service Department

155 Bertie Street, Port Melbourne, Vic 3207

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